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RECRUITMENT OF HUNGARIAN INTERNEES
FOR WORK IN NORTH KOREA

Hungaria
Munich, 18 Dec 1953

As reported by Magyar Hírek (Hungarian News), published in Sweden, and confirmed by several escapees from Hungary, workers are being recruited in Hungary for the reconstruction of North Korea. Certain sources attribute this action to unemployment due to the curtailment of production in Hungarian heavy industry; actually, however, there is a different reason for it.

The regime is anxious to remove from the country the previous internees and deportees [inmates of Hungarian internment camps, and deportees from Budapest and other large cities in 1952], who are moving from one locality to another in search of work and are undermining public morale. Prior to the release of the internees, it was announced that 5,000 Hungarian workers would be sent to North Korea for reconstruction work at enormous wages. A number of unemployed persons applied, but were told that the jobs were reserved for deportees and internees.

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